

REMARKS

In reply to the Office Action of May 18, 2005, independent claim 1 has been amended, and dependent claim 16 has been renumbered as dependent claim 15. Further, Applicant respectfully disagrees with the assertion that the prior amendment dated December 30, 2004 introduced new matter into the drawings and claims. Moreover, Applicant believes the argument made below fully addresses all concerns, and requests allowance of the application as amended.

FIG. 4 contains no matter not described in the specification at the time it was originally filed

The office action objects to the introduction of FIG. 4, claiming that FIG. 4 was not described in the specification at the time of the application's original filing. Applicant respectfully disagrees. Generally, FIG. 4 is a combination of FIG. 1 and FIG. 3. The resultant system shows a local source of data, two remote sources of data, and selection logic to choose among them. Thus, the high level concept of the drawing is adequately expressed in the invention's summary, entitled "Disclosure of the Invention." *Original application, p. 2 lines 16-31.*

More specifically, all elements of FIG. 4 are identically disclosed in FIGS. 1-3 with the exception of SELECTION LOGIC 270. This concept is expressed in FIG. 3 by the CONTROL SIGNAL FOR FAULTY CHANNEL 11. Further, it is described in the original specification as "a switch, which, upon recognition by the system that the primary communication channel is faulty, switches to the backup communication channel." *Original application, page 9, lines 26-29.* Therefore, there is adequate support in the original application's disclosure for the

introduction of FIG. 4. As adequate support for FIG. 4 exists in the original application's disclosure, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to FIG. 4 be withdrawn.

Applicant's independent claim 1 and independent claim 6 contain no subject matter not disclosed in the original application

Claims 1-4 and claims 6-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written disclosure requirement. The office action states that these two claims contain subject matter that was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor had possession of the claimed invention at the time the invention was filed. Applicant respectfully disagrees on this point, and asks for reconsideration in light of the argument made below.

The office action indicates that there is no support for claim one's limitation of "a switch at each of the first and second relays." Applicant respectfully disagrees. The specification discloses that "Typically, the transmitting relay includes a switch, which, upon recognition by the system that the primary communication channel is faulty, switches to the backup channel." *Original application, p. 9, lines 26-29*. As both relays in the system contemplated by claim one must transmit data to one another, both relays are covered by the aforementioned disclosure.

The office action also rejected claim six for a lack of support for the claimed material in the specification. Applicant respectfully disagrees. As the office action did not point out specific grounds for her rejection of claim six, the following details support in the application's original specification for those elements of claim six not found in the original claims.

Claim six claims "A first relay for performing current differential protection of a protected apparatus." The specification discloses the use of "a differential current relay used for

protection of an electric power line.” *Original application, p. 3, lines 9-10.* As an electric power line is a specific type of apparatus, Applicant has shown sufficient support for the quoted language. Another element of claim six is “a local sample circuit configured to generate a local stream in response to receipt of an electrical current signal from a local power line portion.” The specification discloses a “local source of data,” *Original application, p. 6, line 13*, “data streams,” *Original application, p. 6, line 18*, and the monitoring of an “electrical current signal from a power line.” *Original application, p. 3, lines 14-15.* Therefore, all elements of the quoted language are sufficiently disclosed in the specification. Claim six also contains the limitation “to generate a first binary trip decision value.” The specification discloses the use of data synchronized using the disclosed invention to result in faster tripping times. *Original application, p. 10, lines 26-27.* As there is adequate support in the specification for claims one and six, Applicant requests that the rejection be withdrawn and issuance of the claims as amended be allowed.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully submitted that FIG. 4 introduced no new matter to the patent application. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the objection to the addition of FIG. 4 be withdrawn. Further, it is respectfully submitted that claim one and claim six contain no matter not disclosed in the original application. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that issuance of the application as amended is allowed.

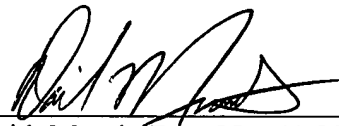
Should the examiner be of the opinion that further amendments or response is required; Applicant encourages the examiner to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Although no additional fees are believed to be due at this time, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or deficiencies or credit any overpayments Cook, Alex, McFarron, Manzo, Cummings & Mehler, Ltd., Deposit Account No. 50-1039 with reference to attorney docket number (1444-0015.01).

Respectfully submitted,

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